

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Agricultural Estimates

Box 1778, Boise, Idaho

PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS

February 15, 1952

IDAHO: The index of prices received by Idaho farmers was down 6 points from last month according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for Idaho. The index number for February 15, 1952 was 313 compared with 319 in January. Sharpest decline was shown in prices received for lambs.

Grain prices were moderately higher, but alfalfa hay was down \$3.00 per ton so that the feed crop index was down 8 points from a month ago. Potatoes were down 5¢ per bushel. Apples were slightly higher. Red cloverseed was up slightly, but alfalfa seed gained an average of \$1.10 per bushel. Dry beans declined 30¢ per cwt. Average cattle prices were up 50¢ per cwt., hogs held steady and lambs declined \$1.60 per cwt. Chickens and eggs were down 3.5¢ per lb. and 4¢ per dozen respectively. Butterfat gained 2¢ per pound but wool was down 5¢ per pound.

Prices paid by farmers for feed were up again from last month. Both the chicken-feed and egg-feed ratios were lower.

INDEX NUMBERS OF PRICES RECEIVED BY IDAHO FARMERS*
(1910-14 = 100)

| | | C R O P S | | | | | L I V E S T O C K | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| YEAR AND MONTH | All Com- modi- ties | | | | Fruits and | | All | | Poul- | | Other |
| | | All Crops | Grains | Feed Crops | Vege- tables | Other Crops | L. S. & L. S. | Meat Ani- mals | try Prod- ucts | Dairy Prod- ucts | L. S. Prod- ucts |
| Ave. 1910-14 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1946 | 228 | 210 | 212 | 216 | 107 | 198 | 249 | 260 | 163 | 251 | 250 |
| 1947 | 278 | 244 | 288 | 273 | 197 | 232 | 317 | 354 | 185 | 279 | 244 |
| 1948 | 287 | 237 | 266 | 262 | 201 | 221 | 346 | 392 | 193 | 296 | 251 |
| 1949 | 258 | 214 | 238 | 241 | 179 | 191 | 309 | 352 | 178 | 232 | 276 |
| 1950 | 260 | 196 | 241 | 231 | 137 | 186 | 335 | 391 | 143 | 231 | 326 |
| 1951 | 308 | 208 | 258 | 255 | 127 | 197 | 426 | 494 | 181 | 260 | 515 |
| 1951 Feb. | 315 | 203 | 265 | 252 | 114 | 197 | 448 | 510 | 149 | 267 | 689 |
| Mar. | 321 | 198 | 259 | 250 | 103 | 194 | 467 | 530 | 157 | 259 | 778 |
| Apr. | 310 | 196 | 256 | 246 | 103 | 196 | 445 | 518 | 158 | 259 | 599 |
| May | 303 | 191 | 257 | 244 | 92 | 190 | 436 | 506 | 162 | 259 | 569 |
| June | 300 | 188 | 251 | 242 | 82 | 195 | 432 | 502 | 179 | 259 | 539 |
| July | 305 | 201 | 250 | 241 | 128 | 197 | 427 | 496 | 198 | 259 | 509 |
| Aug. | 300 | 199 | 250 | 244 | 123 | 185 | 419 | 492 | 204 | 252 | 449 |
| Sept. | 306 | 215 | 249 | 248 | 168 | 190 | 414 | 494 | 207 | 252 | 359 |
| Oct. | 307 | 222 | 260 | 262 | 159 | 199 | 409 | 486 | 207 | 256 | 359 |
| Nov. | 314 | 243 | 273 | 290 | 176 | 211 | 400 | 467 | 214 | 267 | 359 |
| Dec. | 318 | 256 | 274 | 303 | 198 | 209 | 392 | 459 | 191 | 274 | 329 |
| 1952 Jan. | 319 | 266 | 276 | 314 | 211 | 206 | 382 | 445 | 161 | 286 | 329 |
| Feb. | 313 | 260 | 278 | 306 | 209 | 204 | 375 | 438 | 145 | 293 | 299 |

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UNITED STATES: Sharp declines in prices received for truck crops, cotton, cottonseed, oats, eggs, wool, and lambs, together with small but general declines in prices of many other commodities during the month ended February 15, 1952 dropped the Index of Prices Received by Farmers 11 points, or nearly 4 percent, to 289. This is 8 percent below the all time peak of 313 established February a year ago, but well above any other February of record.

During the same period, increases in retail prices of production goods bought by farmers lifted the Parity Index (Prices Paid for Commodities, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates) 1 point or a third of one percent to another new high. Higher prices for field crop seeds, feeder livestock, and motor vehicles led the advance. Prices of commodities bought for living purposes averaged the same as a month earlier.

PARITY RATIO TABLE - UNITED STATES

| Indexes 1910-14 = 100 | Feb. 15, 1951 | Jan. 15, 1952 | Feb. 15, 1952 | Record High | |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|
| | | | | Index | Date |
| Prices Received | 313 | 300 | 289 | 313 | Feb. 1951 |
| Parity Index 1/ | 276 | 287 | 288 | 288 | Feb. 1952 |
| Parity Ratio | 113 | 105 | 100 | 122 | Oct. 1946 |

1/ Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates.

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